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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants:	Christopher J. Ryan et al.	Confirmation No.:	3338
Application No.:	10/684,351	Art Unit:	3733
Filed:	October 9, 2003	Examiner:	James L. Swiger III
For:	LINKING TRANSCONNECTOR FOR COUPLING SPINAL RODS	Attorney Docket:	8932-796-999

New York, New York 10017
January 9, 2007

Mail Stop AF
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the final Office Action mailed October 11, 2006, applicants request entry of the following amendments to the above-identified patent application:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

REMARKS begin on page 13.